

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
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Rejected communications will not be re-  
turned.

Volume XXXV.....No. 239

## AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and  
52d st.—SITALLA.—THE NATIONS.BOOTH'S THEATRE, 23d st., between 5th and 6th ave.—  
THE VAN WINKLES.NIELSEN'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF THE  
DUEL'S MOTTO.WOODS' MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE, Broadway, cor-  
ner Thirtieth st.—Performances every afternoon and evening.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—  
FRITZ, OUR COUSIN GERMAN.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAIN-  
MENT.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—VARI-  
ETY ENTERTAINMENT—COMIC VOCALISTS, &c.THEATRE COMIQUE, 44 Broadway.—COMIC VOCAL-  
ISTS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.CENTRAL PARK GARDEN, 7th av., between 80th and  
82d st.—THEOPHILUS THOMAS' POPULAR CONCERTS.LEEDS' ART GALLERIES, 517 and 519 Broadway.—  
EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—  
SCIENCE AND ART.DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.—  
SCIENCE AND ART.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, August 18, 1870.

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## The Prussian Advance on Paris.

Half a million men were in combat on Sunday and Monday last, and out of that hard fighting the sum of French success is that Bazaine has secured his retreat upon Verdun. Certainly this is not much; but it is what he fought for. He was not in a position to fight for the grand prize of victory. He was in full retreat with a beaten, discouraged army, and his object was simply to carry that army to a defensive line behind which his separate fragments could be reassembled, and where some hours of rest might restore the spirits of the soldiers. With this design the Prussians interfered, and hence the battles of Sunday and Monday, by which the Prussians hoped to completely destroy Bazaine's force or to cut it off from its line of retreat, in which they were so far unsuccessful that he got away, though undoubtedly in a sadly damaged state. The great Napoleon, when his attention was called to the many fine manoeuvres by which Moreau reached the Rhine, in 1796, went to the main point in saying, "It was a retreat, after all." It is clear enough that when great affirmative success is the imperative necessity the achievement that merely secures escape from destruction is not of very high value; yet it should be said for Bazaine that it was something for his side that, in such circumstances as the French stood in on Sunday and Monday last, they should be saved from absolute annihilation; for it was a case, according to France's great soldier, when the assailant is to blame if he does not completely destroy his enemy. That the French were enabled to fight the Prussians to a standstill on Monday indicates at least that they were then handled well and that they fought with resolute courage. It is so much, therefore, to the credit of Bazaine that in a retreat made necessary by events occurring before he assumed command he should deliver a battle with the negative success of saving his army from a perilous position at a time when armies are so incalculably necessary to his country. It is likely, however, that Bazaine has observed by this time that he is not fighting Mexicans just now.

The two battles of Sunday and Monday were the attacks of two different Prussian armies upon the same French army. After the battle near the frontier the main body of the French and what was left of MacMahon's forces retreated by nearly parallel lines, one upon Metz, the other upon Nancy. Frederic Charles, with the German army of the Rhine, followed the main body toward Metz, and Frederic William, the Crown Prince, with the South German army, pursued on the line toward Nancy. In the main body of the French under Bazaine there were not far from two hundred thousand men, and it was necessary to move with precaution and to pursue in the same way, so that the retreating force was not concentrated at Metz until Friday night. On the other line it was different, and more ground was covered in the same time, for MacMahon's force, inconsiderable in the first place by comparison with what was opposed to him, had melted away in battle and retreat, so that it was not even necessary for the Crown Prince to respect the presence of the African hero. The South German column, therefore, was far ahead of the other pursuing army on Sunday, and its advance was even reported at Bar-le-Duc, west of the Meuse, further west than Verdun, and at least fifty miles southwest of Metz. It is at least certain that on Sunday part of the cavalry of this army was at Commercy. As it was reported in Metz so long ago as Friday last that the Prussians were moving their troops on the French railways, and also that they were getting a position in rear of the French army, it seems highly probable that the force at Commercy was there to protect the railway which connects Nancy and Bar-le-Duc against a force issuing from Metz or Verdun, and that the Crown Prince was moving his troops by that rail. In that case he could have had a large part of his army west of the Moselle on Monday.

The situation of the troops on Sunday, therefore, was substantially this: The main army of the French was in and around Metz, with MacMahon, probably, at St. Mihiel, on the Meuse. The Crown Prince was west of the Moselle and Frederic Charles was in front of Metz, with headquarters at Herry, on the railroad from Forbach. At Herry the railroad turns a little to the north before it reaches Metz, so that Herry is as near to a point on the Moselle, twelve miles south of Metz, as it is to that fortress. At that point is the village of Pagny-sur-Moselle. From Herry the Prince Frederic Charles, defecting to his left, moved to Pagny, and at that place opened communication with the Crown Prince on the other side the river. Thus the forces were acting in concert on the right and left bank of the Moselle at twelve miles from Metz, and the immediate purpose of their operation was to cut off Bazaine's retreat. The battle on Sunday began at five P. M., and was entirely on the right or eastern side of the Moselle—on the same side of the river with Metz. It was fought by troops of the army of Frederic Charles, and of the army also of Herwarth von Bittenfeld, and according to the despatch of the King the whole German line on that side the river was engaged. The Germans claim that they drove the French into the protection of the fortress, but this is a success for which they must have paid very heavily in good troops, and it is doubtful whether it was one worth purchasing at the price, for the French left alone would have been into the fortress a little later in their retreat than actually in progress. It is possible, however, that this battle hurried the passage of the Moselle by the French, though the presence of the Crown Prince on the other side was a sufficient reason for making it without loss of time.

Judging from the vague despatch of the Emperor Napoleon, dated at Longueville, the French army must have begun the passage of the Moselle at midnight on Sunday or not long after, for that despatch reports that the army was half-way when the battle of Monday began, and this battle began very early, perhaps near daylight. This battle was a surprise to the French, who evidently did not know that the Germans were in their neighborhood on that side the river. The French troops first engaged in the fight of Monday, the corps of Marshals Ladmirault and Caen, were fighting on the other side the river at seven o'clock Sunday

night. These troops, crossing the river from Metz on their retreat, were attacked by the Germans under the Crown Prince, and they evidently repulsed this attack and drove the Germans from their path, and pursued their march toward Verdun. This is implied in what is said by the Prussian Minister of War, that as the issue of this action the Prussians "were obliged to abandon their intention to cut off the line of retreat of the French army." We assume that the army which thus on Monday endeavored to crush the French at the passage of the river was that of the Crown Prince, in great degree, on the faith of a late despatch substantially to that effect; but it is quite possible that both the fighting of Sunday and Monday might have been done mainly by the troops under Prince Frederic Charles, for King William reports in regard to Sunday's fighting that "by day-break the troops returned to their first bivouacs;" they returned, therefore, to the neighborhood of Pagny, and that is on the river. From that point, therefore, they could readily have crossed to fight on the other side.

All the French accounts represent the battle on Monday as the really great conflict of these two. It was certainly the more important in its purpose to the Prussians, since this was the battle by which it was possible to destroy the French. From the battle of Sunday such a consequence clearly was not possible. We cannot doubt, therefore, that the Prussians put into this fight all the force that they had on that side the river. It seems as little possible to doubt that this force failed; for the latest despatches tell us that the French army is at Verdun. It is noteworthy that the greater part of our information in regard to this fight comes from the French side, but as it is reported that the telegraphs are all cut in the rear of the Prussians, this may account for the circumstance. Yet, as we have said above, even if the French are successful here, it is a poor success, that only furnishes the opportunity to fly. The great fact remains that three overwhelming German armies are in the heart of France in victorious pursuit of her fugitive defenders, and from such a situation a country is not saved by a momentary check to the invader.

## Symptoms of Financial Embarrassment in France.

The news came by telegraph a few days ago that the Bank of France had suspended specie payments, and now we learn that there is to be an immediate issue of paper money—of twenty-five franc notes, it is said. The reason given for this is the difficulty of procuring change for notes of a higher denomination and the necessity of affording relief. The hundred franc notes are useless for ordinary purposes, and change cannot be easily obtained for even fifty franc notes. This step of issuing paper money is the first one, we think, leading to a flood of such promises to pay. The enormous expenditure of the government to carry on this gigantic war and the suspension of business will soon force, probably, a large issue of paper money. Should the war continue to be unfavorable to France, or should it even with some successes threaten to be a prolonged one, the Emperor would find it difficult to raise a large loan from foreign capitalists, or from capitalists at all. And looking at the precarious situation he and his dynasty have been placed in through his blunders and failures in the war, and at the revolutionary elements that are fermenting in France, it will not be easy to raise such a large loan as his necessities must call for from the French people. Everything indicates a large issue of paper money by the government should the war be prolonged; and this will happen, no doubt, whether Napoleon remains at the head of the nation or a revolutionary government takes the control.

There are few people here who are not acquainted with the history of the financial embarrassment and operations of France during the wars of the great revolution. Though beginning with moderate issues of paper money at first, the revolutionary government soon found that it was necessary to increase these to meet the demands of the stupendous war it had undertaken. In a year or two the country was flooded with assignats and mandats. Although the first were based upon the public lands which had been confiscated from the nobles, the religious establishments and the *emigrés*, and were a sort of land warrant, they nevertheless soon became almost valueless. A hatful of this paper money at one time would hardly purchase a loaf of bread. The government resorted to the most extreme measures to force the circulation and to keep up its credit; it made, in fact, the refusal to receive this money a criminal offense. But though the guillotine was suspended over the heads of those who refused to receive or attempted to throw discredit upon the assignats and mandats, this did not prevent the extraordinary depreciation of them. It is not unlikely that we may witness a similar state of things should the present war continue long, and especially should another revolutionary government be organized in Paris. True, France is richer and has far more resources now than at the time of the first revolution, but the cost of war is much greater at present, and the scale on which it is urged now calls for enormous expenditures. Unprepared as we were for war at the time the Southern rebellion broke out, and vast as were our expenditures, some time elapsed before United States notes were much depreciated. Nor was the credit of the republic at any time seriously endangered. We had no debt worth speaking about before that event, and we had a country almost unlimited in its resources. It is different with France. It has already a debt of near twenty-five hundred millions of dollars, and rich as it may be it has nothing like the resources of this virgin and vast country. France has not been at war a month, and still specie payments have been suspended and there is to be a large issue of paper money. This is only the beginning, and should the war continue we may expect fearful financial embarrassments, with a resort, probably, to something like the forced circulation of mandats and assignats during the time of the first revolution.

ENGLISH INTERVENTION.—After a decisive battle England, it is said, will intervene for peace. Why not, when, by holding aloof, Prussia may become too strong or France may relight the combustibles of a republican conflagration all over the Continent?

## Our Special History of the War.

Our special correspondents at the seat of war in Europe, with others of our writers dating at points not involved actually in the Franco-Prussian convulsion, continue their narrative of the progress of the great struggle in the letters which appear in our columns to-day. The communications are, both in point of accuracy and amplitude of detail, in worthy sequence of our special prefatory notes of the campaign. They are dated at Strasbourg, Metz, Frankfurt, London, Bellinzona, Switzerland, and at Stettin, on the Baltic coast. Marshal MacMahon's march from Strasbourg towards Haguenau and the composition of his first corps of observation are noted. The Zouaves and Turcos serving in the French army are reported as they appeared on the road. With respect to these peculiar contingents, their drill, discipline and morale, it may be well to note that they seem to be more worthy of the period of the camp licenses and tilts and jousts of the tournaments and crusades than of soldiers of the nineteenth century. They act like persons likely to bring weakness on a regular army—a sort of cancer sore in the ranks. Their peculiar style of dare-devil gait, affected or real as it may be, is entirely out of place in a war fought on the banks of beautiful rivers. Their regimental demeanor does not frighten the matter-of-fact Germans, nor does their gymnastic agility save them from the shattering balls of the needle gun. Indeed, judging at this distance from the scene of action, and speaking in a moralizing vein, we are inclined to believe that Napoleon made a first mistake in having given such an early prominence to his Zouaves and Algerians in this contest with Prussia. The soldiers of the Imperial Guard of France had marched from Metz at the time of date of our letter from the fortress. They had gone to the front. Inside the fortifications there was solitude, with a depressing and grim dreariness. Napoleon was reported sick. His Majesty is said to have pointed and sighted the first mitrailleuse which was fired on the Prussians at Saarbrück. The act, if accomplished, betrayed a sort of littleness of mind almost unworthy of a man in his exalted position at such a serious moment. It was evidently prompted by either a feeling of intense bitterness, an affection of a knowledge of the science of gunnery, or a desire to imitate still further the acts of his uncle, the first emperor. Napoleon the Great made his first act of war as a young gunner at the siege of Toulon, and why not his nephew train the new instrument of death with his own hands at Saarbrück? The two epochs differ widely, the calibre of the men is different, and the results of the two shots likely, judging from present appearances, to be widely, vastly different. By night and by day the German army swept along, in its vast force and well regulated economies, through Frankfurt and other avenues which led to the point of concentration for battle. The movement made a grand sight, which is well described. England remained agitated for the preservation of her neutrality. Switzerland had called out her army—a huge army, considering her extent of territory, well officered and with an admirable organization. The French navy had commenced, as will be seen from our Stettin letter, to operate on the Baltic coast. Our special written exhibit from the seat of war becomes thus of great interest to all classes of our cosmopolitan population—Germans, French and French sympathizers, and the mighty American neutrals who wish for peace.

## Agitation at Paris.

"The city is greatly agitated," said a Paris telegram dated yesterday morning. A London telegram of the same date transmitted the opinion expressed by the *Post*, that "if the Prussians approach Paris a revolution is inevitable." Doubtless a revolutionary sentiment is gathering strength in Paris. It has already found utterance in the Corps Législatif, well high reproducing the tumultuous scenes in the Constituent Assembly of 1789. It has been allowed a vent in the singing of the "Marseillaise" at the theatres, in the café concerts, and in the streets. Not content with this, it broke out in shouts of "Down with Napoleon!" "Vive la République!" "A bas Ollivier!" "Les Ministres à Cayenne!" and in singing obscene abuse of the government to the old revolutionary air of "Les Lampons," when the first battalion of the Garde Mobile went off by railway to Chalons. It animated the band of sixty or eighty men, all armed with revolvers and with pignards of the same model as those found, together with red flags and different rallying signals, in the house of a person arrested on the 18th instant—the band which on the 14th instant attacked an engine house on the Boulevard Villette, when an officer and a fireman were wounded and when a little girl was killed by a stray ball from a revolver. But on this occasion the population co-operated with the police, who arrested the ringleader of the band and four of his accomplices. About fifty persons were arrested, with the aid of the National Guard and the citizens. All the evening journals echoed the public indignation which demanded the prompt punishment of the rioters. Paris was greatly agitated then, but with a desire to prevent domestic disturbances that might lend aid and comfort to the enemy rather than with a desire to overthrow the imperial throne. Since that exciting day the growing unpopularity of the Emperor, the reverses of the imperial army and especially the secrecy maintained by the new Cabinet as to the movements at the front, have combined to swell the torrent of popular discontent until it would seem that nothing but a speedy, brilliant French victory can prevent a revolution. The vast crowds which all night long on Tuesday night surrounded the Ministry of the Interior and all other places where news was posted are as inflammable as the powder which filled the streets of Paris in July, 1830, and in February, 1848. No one can tell what a day may bring forth when the population of Paris is so "greatly agitated." It was, in fact, this very population which virtually declared war against Prussia a day before it was declared by government. Their patriotic enthusiasm was unbounded on that day. No ruler of France could easily resist the pressure of public opinion in favor of the traditional idea of the Rhine frontier. The whole foreign policy

of the Emperor Napoleon since 1860 shows how completely he has been under the dominion of this idea. It has been truly said that the desire of the French for the Rhine is as strong and of as long standing as that of the Germans for unity. "Sully, Richelieu and Mazarin strove hard to realize it; Louis XIV. owed most of his popularity to having become its champion; Napoleon I. preferred to abdicate rather than renounce it; it was constantly kept in view by the government of the restoration, the July monarchy, the republic, and finally the empire." Even if the present agitation in Paris should result in a revolution and the establishment of a republic in place of the empire, the French people will insist upon it that the first duty of the armies of the new republic, after expelling the Prussian invader from France, will be to extend its boundaries to the Rhine.

## Railroads in the Present European War.

There are few who will contest the assertion that had no railroads existed in the United States the recent great struggle between North and South, if terminated at all in favor of the Union, would have required many more years of painful sacrifice. In the war of 1812-15 with Great Britain it cost six weeks' delay and many times the present value of a barrel of flour to convey such a barrel from New York to Lake Erie. In 1861-65 the numbers of men, the quantity of stores and the tremendous paraphernalia of war conveyed in a day or two to scenes of action hundreds of miles distant amazed the world. As early as 1859 the French had done marvellous things in this way when they assisted the Italians against Austria. In eighty-six days—that is to say, from the 10th of April to the 5th of July—they transported 604,381 men and 129,237 horses on their various railroads, and of these the Lyons road alone threw 227,649 men and 36,358 horses upon the Italian frontiers. Upon our own achievements in that line it is needless to dwell, while they are so fresh in the memory of all our observant citizens. But in 1866, when operating against Austria, the Prussians far exceeded all previous examples in the celerity of their advance by railroad to the front. In twenty-one days they transported 197,000 men, 55,000 horses and 5,800 wagons, in perfect condition, over distances varying from 120 to 360 miles, or much less, in the average, than the space over which their armies now have to be moved in prosecuting the invasion of France. If, as Napoleon I. is said to have remarked, "Providence be on the side of the heaviest battalions," and the perfection of military science consists in massing a superior force on the right point at the right moment, then this immense acceleration of movement by means of steam and railroads must exercise the greatest influence upon the result. But it is quite surprising to recall the opposition that these views, now familiar to every intelligent lad, encountered only thirty years ago. At that time it was contended in Europe that the same means of transportation could not be used for a day's journey of 250 miles. Then great loss of time by change of cars and many fearful accidents were predicted; but all these notions proved fallacious. Time, money, food, clothing, health and discipline were all found to be vastly economized; and as for casualties, the proportion was found to be far less than on the old foot marching system. Infantry and their munitions and equipments are naturally disembarked more rapidly than cavalry and artillery. In Germany the cars intended for the transportation of troops, horses and batteries are provided with from three to four axles and six to eight wheels. Each axle is calculated to bear the weight of from twenty to twenty-five men or two to three fully equipped horses. One field piece or one army wagon is reckoned for every two axles, or two pieces or wagons to every three axles. For the heavier trains two locomotives are employed, both pulling, or one pulling and the other pushing. Such a double train, say the military journals of Prussia, with thirty-eight to forty cars, will convey a battalion of one thousand men along with their ammunition wagons and the horses of the officers. One of from thirty to thirty-two cars will transport either a battery of field artillery of six guns and two howitzers, leaving half of the ammunition wagons and the two leaders of every six-horse team to follow on a single train, or a squadron of one hundred and fifty mounted men and one hundred and sixty horses, the riders accompanying their animals. A rocket battery requires only a single train and one locomotive. Upon carefully calculating weights, time and distances the conclusion is that a division of ten thousand men—eight battalions, two regiments of cavalry and two batteries on the German plan—might be carried one hundred and twenty miles on a long summer's day, a double track and turnouts existing and all things in good order. This, at least, is about the rate at which the Prussians have moved toward the Rhine, only that by peculiar effort they managed to get nearly twenty thousand men through on each railroad line in the twenty-four hours. Thus, in the lapse of ten days, they presented two hundred thousand men on their frontier in addition to such troops as they had already in station near the scene.

Thus, as time and distance are abridged by science, so is the continuance of wrong and oppression shortened in the same proportion. Lightning gives the order, steam conveys the force, mechanism and chemistry strike the blow. Armies, smitten as it were by the blazing sword of the archangel, melt away in a flash of light and a wreath of smoke, and empires founded upon force are swept from the scene. Those only which are rooted in the hearts of men and established on the eternal rock of truth survive.

"OUR FRITZ" TO NANCY ON THE MOSSEL.—They say that "Our Fritz," on approaching the fair Nancy on the Moselle, became sentimental and thus delivered himself to the French dandy, who "wept at his tranquility":—

"Is here I'd try to meet thee still  
At sound of the vesper bell  
In the starry light  
Of a summer night  
On the banks of the blue Moselle:  
For Nancy, dear, through fire and rain,  
Against MacMahon and Bazaine,  
Old Nap, young Nap, and all their train,  
I've come to the Moselle."

THE EMPEROR, YESTERDAY WAS AT CHALONS, which is nearly half way between Metz and Paris. He is probably much nearer this morning.

## The Great Popular Groundswell in Europe.

Months ago we again and again called attention to the great and incessant military movements that were taking place in Prussia, to her rapid armament of Wilhelmshafen and her other northern seaports, and to the agitation that seemed to be spreading among the people not only of Germany, but of France, Italy and Spain. Then came the Spanish insurrections in Valencia and elsewhere, the Italian outbreaks at Milan, Padua, &c., and the tremendous scenes that accompanied the progress and the declaration of the *plébiscite* in the French empire. But these disturbances were, one by one, suppressed, and the smug authorities who take politics, statesmanship, strategy and international law by inhalation, probably, without knowing A from lizard about them, said in England and America that things were "all right." But in spite of this dictum, given with all that overweening positiveness which is the peculiar and inseparable accompaniment of the densest ignorance, trade strikes became more numerous than ever, and the workmen, associated in powerful bodies and co-operating all over Europe without regard to difference of nationality, stepped farther and farther to the front, until at last they occupied the entire foreground. Just before the Spanish throne question monopolized the attention of Europe all eyes were turned upon the investigation in progress at Paris concerning the so-called "International Society of Workmen." Then, like successive thunder claps following close upon each other, came the French quarrel with Prussia, the declaration of war, the terrible overthrow of the French armies and the revelation of a vast revolutionary movement beneath the surface from Paris to Naples. We now have the scene suddenly revealed amid the smoke and din of contending empires, by the lurid light of deadly artillery. The desolated firesides; the heaped up slain; the corn left ungathered in the fields; the forced contributions of money and blood; the crowded hospitals; the blood, the hunger, the confusion, the despair and death of thousands affecting millions upon millions more of innocent toilers, in order that the ruthless personal ambition and the Moloch of military pride may slake their infernal thirst for what they dare misname "glory," have filled the cup of bitterness to overflowing. Patience among the people has had its perfect work and the hour of rectification is at hand. Reverently we hear a voice rising far above the roar of those awful battle fields in France, where so much manliness and valor are cut down like weeds—a voice that seems to borrow the words of the prophet of old—"Prepare the way; take up the stumbling block out of the way of my people."

This morning, while these lines are read, at Paris, Madrid, Florence, Rome, Vienna, ay, even Berlin and the farther cities of the North, the great groundswell of the popular ocean beats high and heavily against the barriers that have so long restrained it. The currents set in from all quarters towards the one centre from which the tocsin has so often sounded out over listening Europe before. The international tricolor is ready to leap from the towers of Notre Dame to every spire between Hamburg and Palermo, amid the acclamations of a dozen nationalities shouting, in a hundred dialects, "Lat 'et umme gahn!" ("Let it go round!") with justice, humanity, Christian forbearance and moderation for its guides and true liberty for its resplendent star, until civilization shall mean something far loftier and more blessed than the heightened capacity to inflict universal woe, and men shall be made rulers, not through intellect alone, but only through the greatness of their love to God and to their fellow man.

DR. NEWMAN ON POLYGAMY.—Dr. Newman's sermon against polygamy, which he preached a few Sundays ago in the Methodist meeting house in Salt Lake City, is published in full elsewhere in our columns to-day. The argument is a complete refutation of all the propositions heretofore advanced by Orson Pratt or the other Mormon leaders, and is so bold and outspoken in its denunciation of the twin relics of barbarism that it will probably goad Brigham Young or some of his disciples into a reply, notwithstanding the denial made by the Mormon bishops of any intention to challenge Dr. Newman to the discussion. Whatever effect the sermon of Dr. Newman may have in the matter of converts or proselytism from polygamy, the mere fact that he was allowed to use the scathing invectives which he did use against the prevalent sin of that community before a crowded house undisturbed is one proof that Mormonism is tottering to its fall. Railroads and schisms and probably the Cullom bill would eventually have demolished the institution, but free discussion will bring about that end much sooner.

THE POPE'S DECLARATION OF NEUTRALITY.—The report that the Papal government at Rome has addressed, under date of July 30, to all its agents, at home and abroad, its declaration of complete neutrality in regard to the war pending between France and Prussia, has been semi-officially promulgated in this country. This is an important declaration on the part of the Holy Father, for, bereft of French bayonets and a turbulent and revolutionary population occupying in part the Papal dominions, it would have been unwise in him to have taken sides one way or the other. But in his impregnable and magnificent position of infallibility what need has he to issue such a declaration? The Pope should fear nothing. Infallibility has now an opportunity to prove its strength and its virtues, or its weakness. The Catholic world will sustain his Holiness in his godlike mission, and his adherents in the French and German armies will love the Pontiff the more as his isolation becomes the more marked and his danger the more imminent.

A LIMITED FIELD FOR IRON-CLADS AND GUNBOATS.—The field for the French in their war against Germany. The approaches to the seacoast, the river mouths and inlets of the North German Confederation are mostly inaccessible to the heavy draught iron-clads of the French navy, and against gunboats on all the threatened German rivers it appears they are already provided by lines of bulks and by torpedoed, with all the latest improvements. Unless, therefore, the French iron-clad squadron can bring that of Prussia to an engagement it will have but small opportunities for valor in this war.

NAPOLEON'S DESPATCH was, after all, correct, in which he said that in crossing the river Moselle, heading for Paris, the advance of the French army, before half the army was over, was attacked by the Prussians, the French at the time having no knowledge of the enemy's presence till the attack was made. We now have that the Prussians had actually got over the river first, and that their attack was intended to cut off the French retreat—a fact which at first seemed to be incredible.